

of a camp shed at Changanachery, in pursuance of the suggestion of that Society that it will pay for the construction of the camp shed on another site.

With regard to the Puvakkattu *chira* that is a work which the Municipality must take up.

Mr. Thoma Kurian.—The Municipality has got no money.

Dewan.—The Municipality should send an application to Government for a loan. It should not divest itself of all responsibility. In regard to the tank for the use of the Mahomedans of Changanachery, the Municipal Council represented to the Government that they were unable to defray the expenses and the Government then gave them a grant. Similarly, the Government will be in a position to give a grant in regard to the Puvakkattu *chira*.

Member.—This tank is used by all people. It is on the road side.

Dewan.—It does not require anything except a few landing ghats. There is no mud or slush.

Then, in regard to the location of liquor shops outside municipal limits, that matter is now engaging the attention of the Excise Committee. It is for the Excise Committee to say what policy should be adopted in regard to toddy and arrack shops. We are awaiting the report of the Excise Committee, and Government will consider the question very carefully on its receipt.

As regards the Changanachery-Vazhur road, the Chief Engineer says that the road requires improvements and that it will be done.

As for the opening of the Changanachery-Alleppey canal, the reply has been already given in connection with other representations made.

The opening of a branch of the State-aided Bank at Changanachery is a matter to be decided by the State-aided Bank itself. It must first of all begin to work. It has not yet commenced work. Once it commences work, it should decide for itself whether it should have a branch at Changanachery.

With regard to the opening of a canal through the Kusakkudi fields, it is reported that the canal at that portion is likely to cost a great deal. I will ask the Chief Engineer to investigate that matter. I do not exactly remember the place now. The Chief Engineer has not investigated it and I am not in a position to know what the cost of it will be. It is reported that it will cost about Rs. 83,000. But I wish to see the area when I go to Changanachery next.

Regarding the construction of a shed at the landing, Government have ordered that sheds should be constructed.

As regards the market, that is again a matter which concerns the Municipal Council. The Council should place a scheme before Government. Until the Municipal Council does it, Government cannot say anything.

92. Certain needs of the Alwaye town.

Mr. M. P. Augustine (Member, Municipal Council, Alwaye) observed that all the Municipalities in the State, except two, had Presidents elected by the members of the respective Councils and that he could not understand why that privilege was denied to his Council. He requested that the Government be pleased to extend to the Municipality the right of electing its own President.

The other subject to which the Member drew the pointed attention of Government was that the judges of the Alwaye Village Panchayat court were not selected from among those living within town limits. Of the 5 judges of the Panchayat court, 2 were nominated by Government from those living four and five miles away from the jurisdiction of the court. The Member regretted his inability to understand the wisdom of appointing persons from such distant villages when there were men of light and leading in the town itself, well acquainted with local conditions. Similarly, he complained against the nomination, as Municipal Councillors, of people from rural areas. He requested that Government be pleased to make it a rule to nominate only residents of the town to the above representative institutions. He also suggested, for the consideration of the Government, the extension of the jurisdiction of the Alwaye Village Panchayat court over some more *pakuthies*.

The Member next requested that their old prayer for a Munsiff's court be granted. It was a cry from the Tenth Session of the Assembly and he was not going to reiterate the grounds upon which his representation was made, as enough had already been said. He would only once more press the request for being complied with by the Government.

He then urged that the headquarters of the Division Assistant be shifted from Perumpavur to Alwaye and also requested that the taluk headquarters or the sub-treasury might be shifted to Alwaye, as a large amount of Government revenue was being collected at Alwaye. The Member then gave figures of receipts of the various departments collected at Alwaye and taken to the sub-treasury at Kunnatnad.

The Member's next point was that the Sub-Registrar's office of Alangad now located at Tottakkattukara on the left bank of the Periyar river might be shifted to Alwaye. Most of the transactions related to the people on Alwaye side and its present location was a source of trouble to the people, especially during the rainy season when the place was under water. A building on the present rent could be had at Alwaye also.

Speaking about the Sanskrit Patasala at Alwaye, the Member explained that it was a free institution, that a boarding house was attached to it and that it was not run on commercial lines. In view of the splendid work turned out by the institution, the Member requested that an increased grant might be given, as the amount of Rs. 80 now given was too small.

The Member's next representation was that an English school for girls might be opened at Alwaye. Last year when a representation was made on the subject, the Dewan replied that the Government would place the revenue camp shed at the disposal of the Municipal Council if they would start a school for girls. The Council agreed to the proposal and addressed the Government, but nothing had been done in that direction. The Member, therefore, requested that the revenue camp shed might be placed at the disposal of the Council, so that steps might be taken to begin the school at the beginning of the next school year.

Finally, the Member submitted that their old prayer for the construction of a bridge across the Periyar at Alwaye was not granted. He explained the early history of the scheme and said that the representation was made for the past 12 years at the Assembly and yet no action had been taken. He suggested what he considered to be a very feasible means of giving effect to the proposal at a much cheaper cost than already estimated for. He referred to the scheme for the fitting up of the Railway bridge at Alwaye for use as a cartable bridge and extending the road to connect the line to Angamali. If that scheme was to materialise, there was a narrow and deep section of the northern branch of the Periyar a few furlongs below its bifurcation which was once suggested by Mr. R. Everard, who was Executive Engineer at Alwaye for 5 years, as an ideal site for a bridge. The width at that site was not more than 450 feet with laterite banks on either side. He then explained at length how the construction of the bridge at the site mentioned by him would benefit the people. He also expatiated on the need for greater facilities being afforded to the people of North Travancore in the matter of means of locomotion and concluded with a prayer that the necessary investigation for the construction of the Alwaye bridge at the Mangalappuzha crossing as proposed by him might be begun immediately since the cost would not exceed Rs. 4,000 or Rs. 5,000.

Dewan's reply.—As regards the establishment of a Munsiff's court at Alwaye the High Court are of opinion that there is still not sufficient justification for its establishment and we have to accept the opinion of the High Court in the matter.

In regard to shifting the Division Assistant's office from Perumpavur to Alwaye, it is reported that Perumpavur is more convenient as headquarters than Alwaye.

As regards the shifting of the taluk headquarters to Alwaye or the opening of a sub-treasury office there, I am sorry to say that the Peishkar has not offered any remarks. You have quoted certain facts and figures. I shall investigate that matter and see whether a sub-treasury is necessary there.

With regard to shifting the Sub-Registrar's office from Tottakkattukara to Alwaye, I think there is a good deal of justification in what you say, namely, that it is a hardship to the people who live on the southern side of the river to have to go to the Sub-Registrar's office on the northern side. The Director of Registration says that it is not necessary to shift the Sub-Registrar's office from the northern side of the river to the southern side, because remittances are being taken to Parur and the men need not cross the river. The Sub-Registrar's office does not exist for the convenience of the officer, but for the convenience of the public. I think the Director should explore the possibility of altering the jurisdiction of the Sub-Registry office on both sides of the river, so as to make it convenient for both classes of people to go to the Sub-Registry office without being obliged to cross the river. I shall ask the Director of Registration to do the needful.

As for the opening of an English Middle School for girls at Alwaye, I am sorry that the matter is still pending with the Education Department. The Director will be reminded to send his remarks without further delay.

In regard to the grant to the local Sanskrit Patasala, that grant was formerly less than what it is now. It was Rs. 50 some time ago, and it was raised to Rs. 80 in 1918. Now the school authorities have asked for a grant to the hostel which they have started and the Principal of the Sanskrit College has been asked to inspect and submit a report, and if it is satisfactory we shall give a grant. I do not think that Government have got funds to increase the maintenance grant to the institution now. We are paying Rs. 80 a month or nearly Rs. 1,000 a year, and I think the institution must be satisfied with that amount.

As regards the nomination of Municipal Councillors and Village Panchayat Court Judges from among the residents of the town, I think there again you are right. I do not see any meaning in people who are five or eight miles away from the town being asked to serve on the Village Panchayat courts. Peishkars have been informed by circular that they should themselves examine nominations, and there seems still to be a good deal of negligence. I shall again ask them to nominate persons who live within the limits of the town.

The question of giving to the Alwaye Municipality an elected President will be considered when the present President's tenure ends.

The last thing is about the bridge across the river. You have thrown out a suggestion which I think deserves consideration. You say that the river need not be bridged at the place where it is intended to be bridged, but that it may be bridged near the northern arm. It is a very sound proposition to be placed before the Government. You will still have a circuitous route if you want to go to Parur. But that is a lesser evil. I will ask the Chief Engineer to investigate the feasibility of putting up a bridge across the northern arm of the river at the place mentioned by you. If the cost is anything like Rs. 4,000 or Rs. 5,000 as stated by you, we will certainly prefer it to spending four or five lakhs of rupees. The matter will be considered.

93. Sanitation of Arudai Town with special reference to water supply and the appointment of conservancy staff.

Mr. O. P. Anantanarayana Aiyar (Member, Peermade taluk) began by remarking that the members who represented Peermade in the past years from 1087 never made any suggestions to improve the condition of the town. In 1097 some correspondence took place regarding the constitution of a Municipality at Peermade; but that proposal was dropped. There were only a few houses scattered here and there at Peermade if Government buildings and officers' quarters were left out of consideration. The inhabitants depended on the small stream called Azhutayar and a few wells for water supply. But the latter got dried up during Makaram to Edavam;